



3612

LUDR 3.0-082

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of  
Manfred Gensler

Group art: 3612

Serial No. 10/034,512  
Confirmation No.: 1239

Filed: December 28, 2001

For: FLOOR COVERING FOR  
A POWERED VEHICLE

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is  
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X *Michael E. Eitel* May 30, 2002  
(Signature) (Date)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98,  
applicants and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents and patent  
publications, copies of which are enclosed herewith, be made of record in the official  
United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the present application.

U.S. Patent Nos.

5,666,691\*

Foreign Patent Publications

German Gebrauchsmuster DE 82 24 007\*  
German Offenlegungsschrift DE 196 17 408\*  
German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 05 949\*  
German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 23 230\*  
German Offenlegungsschrift DE 199 55 118  
German Gebrauchsmusterschrift DE 200 01 405\*  
Great Britain Patent Appln. No. 2 215 600\*  
International Publication Appln. No. WO 97 06029\*

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Five of the above-listed references, i.e., German Offenlegungsschrift DE 196 17 408, German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 05 949, German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 23 230, Great Britain Patent Appln. No. 2 215 600, and International Publication Appln. No. WO 97/06029 are discussed in the specification of the present application. In the foregoing circumstances, no further comments are deemed necessary in connection with these five references.

Furthermore, the eight above-listed patents and patent publications that are designated with an asterisk ("\*") were cited in a European Search Report issued in connection with applicants' corresponding European application (i.e., EP 01 13 0952). With reference to the attached copy of the European Search Report, it provides an indication as to the relevance of the references listed therein. More particularly, the European Search Report assigns a category "A" designation (i.e., a document defining the general state of the art) to German Gebrauchsmuster DE 82 24 007, German Offenlegungsschrift DE 196 17 408, German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 05 949, German Offenlegungsschrift DE 198 23 230 and Great Britain Patent Appln. No. 2 215 600. In addition, a category "X" designation (i.e., a document of particular relevance taken alone) has been assigned to German Gebrauchsmusterschrift DE 200 01 405, US Patent No. 5,666,691 and International Publication Appln. No. WO 97 06029. In the foregoing circumstances, no further comments are deemed necessary in connection with these references.

Since German Offenlegungsschrift DE 199 55 118 is in a non-English document and was not cited in the European search report, nor discussed in the specification of the present application, applicants' attorney provides the following translation of the abstract of this reference:

The invention is directed to an arrangement for attaching a supplemental mat in an automobile having a base segment and at least two pins which are attachable to the floor covering of the vehicle. The pins are so arranged in the plate formed supplemental mat so that they are directed diagonally towards the surface of the floor covering facing the supplemental mat and that the attaching arrangement is provided to the surface of the floor covering facing the upper surface of the supplemental.

In view of the foregoing comments relating to German Offenlegungsschrift DE 199 55 118, no further comments concerning this reference are deemed necessary.

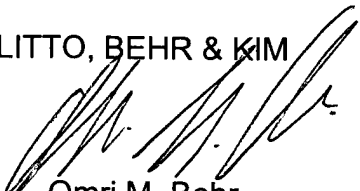
In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and patent publications listed above, applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. The completed Form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants' attorney is not presently in possession of English-language translations of any of the foreign language references listed above. However, upon the Examiner's request, applicants' attorney will submit English-language translations of any of these foreign language documents.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits for the present application, no fees are believed to be due (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97). However, if any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 19-1218.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
LUDR 3.0-082

Serial No. 10/034,512

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicants  
MANFRED GENSLEFiling Date  
December 28, 2001Group Art Unit  
3612

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (M-D-Y)	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date If Appropriate
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AK						

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (DD-MM-YY)	Name	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
						Yes	No
AL	2 2 1 5 6 0 0	27-9-89	Great Britain				
AM	9 7 0 6 0 2 9 /	02-20-97	International				
AN							
AO							
AP							
AQ							

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Page, Etc.)

AR		
AS		
AT		

Examiner

Date Considered

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (MM-DD-YY)	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date If Appropriate
AA	5 6 6 6 6 9 1	9-16-97	Bealing et al.			
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
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AI						
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (DD-MM-YY)	Name	Class	Sub-class	Translation
						Yes No
AL	8 2 2 4 0 0 7	25-11-82	German			X
AM	19 6 1 7 4 0 8	28-8-97	German			X
AN	19 8 0 5 9 4 9	19-8-99	German			X
AO	19 8 2 3 2 3 0	10-12-98	German			X
AP	19 9 5 5 1 1 8	21-9-00	German			X
AQ	20 0 0 1 4 0 5	18-5-00	German			X

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Page, Etc.)

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AS	
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Examiner

Date Considered

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.